

MSU Responsible Conduct of Research Plans

Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research is essential in the preparation of future scholars and professionals. An understanding of the issues concerning the conduct of research in an increasingly complex world has become critical in successfully navigating the research landscape. To help prepare Michigan State University graduate students for their future scholarly work, a plan for providing the foundation of responsible conduct has been developed in coordination with the Graduate School, the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies Office, and college associate deans for graduate education. The plan is predicated on the principles that a basic understanding of issues is necessary through didactic training and a periodic reinforcement of the principles through discussion. It is the belief that this plan will provide a foundation for all graduate students as well as others pursuing a career in research and will offer the basic information to meet most, if not all, federal agency granting requirements.

The plan below represents the basic university plan. Each department/program or college will develop a plan that at a minimum incorporates these university-level requirements.

The Graduate School RCR Workshop series may be used to help fulfill both the annual refresher and discussion-based training requirements.

*Students who are supported by NSF, NIH, or USDA grants may be required to complete additional specific training; they must meet the timeline and content requirements of training for that grant.

*Students engaged in research involving human subjects or animal use must complete the Michigan State University training modules for those subjects before submitting IRB or IACUC approvals. These modules may be completed as part of the training requirements below, or in addition to them, depending on the department/program or college plan.

All graduate professional, master's and doctoral students

1)Year 1

All new graduate and graduate professional students will complete 4 CITI online modules within the first year of enrollment in their program: *Completion of this requirement will be tracked in SABA*

- Introduction to the Responsible Conduct of Research
- Authorship
- Plagiarism
- Research Misconduct

2) Discussion-Based Training

All graduate and graduate professional students must complete a minimum of 6 hours of discussion-based training prior to receiving their degrees. These hours can be completed at any point in the graduate program, including during the first 2 years (e.g., as part of a course), or as part of the ongoing training requirement (for doctoral students). Specifics about the number of hours required, the content, and the timing of this training will be defined in the individual department/program or college plan. *For master's Plan A and PhD students completion of this requirement will be recorded by the department in GradInfo as "Initial" training.*

Master's plan A and doctoral students

In addition to 1 and 2 above, master's plan A and doctoral students will complete:

3) Year 2

Within the first 2 years of enrollment in their program, master's plan A and doctoral students will complete 3 additional MSU online training modules, to be selected from the following list. Specific requirements for course selection may be defined in the individual department/program or college plan.

Completion of this requirement will be tracked in SABA.

- CITI Collaborative Research
- CITI Conflicts of Interest
- CITI Data Management
- CITI Financial Responsibility
- CITI Mentoring
- CITI Peer Review
- IACUC Tutorial for Animal Care Training (in <http://Train.ORA.msu.edu>)
- Human Research Protection/ IRB Certification (in <http://Train.ORA.msu.edu>)
- Rigor and Reproducibility Course (in production)

In addition to 1, 2 and 3 above, doctoral students will complete:

4) Annual Refresher Training

Starting in year 3, all doctoral students must complete 3 hours of annual refresher training; this can include discussion-based training and online courses beyond the 7 required in basic training. Specifics about the number of hours required, the content, and the timing of this training will be defined in the individual department/program or college plan. *Completion of this requirement will be recorded by the department in GradInfo as "Annual" training.*